



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3 SOUTHERN MISSOURI RESIDENTS, ONE CALIFORNIA MAN INDICTED IN METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that three southern Missouri residents and a California man were indicted by a federal grand jury today for conspiracy to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine.

Fredrich Heribert Beliunas, 43, of Salinas, Calif., **Larry Lawson**, 49, of Cadet, Mo., **Leonard L. Martin**, 43, of Mountain Grove, Mo., and **Rebecca S. Shriver**, 43, of Summersville, Mo., were charged in an eight-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges the four co-defendants conspired to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine between June 2003, and June 17, 2004, in Texas County, Mo., and Wright County, Mo.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Martin** possessed with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on Feb. 25, 2004, in Texas and Wright counties.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Martin** possessed with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on March 17, 2004, in Texas and Wright counties.

Counts Four and Five of the federal indictment allege that **Martin** distributed methamphetamine on Feb. 17 and March 2, 2004, in Texas County.

Counts Six and Seven of the federal indictment alleges that **Lawson** distributed 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on April 12 and May 7, 2004, in Texas County.

Count Eight of the federal indictment alleges that **Lawson** distributed methamphetamine again on May 25, 2004, in Texas County.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly R. Weber Dean. It was investigated by the South Central Drug Task Force; the Drug Enforcement Administration; the Missouri State Highway Patrol; the Houston, Mo., Police Department; the Cabool, Mo., Police Department; the Phelps County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; the Rolla, Mo., Police Department; the Texas County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; the Mountain Grove, Mo., Police Department; the Douglas County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; the Wright County, Mo., Sheriff's Department; and the Howell County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in this indictment are simply accusations and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow